

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 00470 291405Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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DEPT PASS AID/SER/H

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO, ECRE, EAID, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT SENDS INVITATIONS FOR DESIGN COMPETITION
\$40 MILLION TOWN

REF: KUWAIT 4924

1.EMBOFF HAS LEARNED KUWAIT NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY THROUGH KUWAIT PLANNING BOARD HAS INVITED FIVE INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN ARCHITECTURAL/DESIGN FIRMS TO SUBMIT PRELIMINARY DESIGNS FOR NEW SUBDIVISION OF EAST SULEIBIKHAT BY SECOND WEEK IN APRIL. THESE INVITATIONS ARE FOR STAGE 1 OF A THREE STAGE PROJECT WEST OF KUWAIT CITY. STAGE 1 IS BUDGETED AT KD40 MILLION (KD1 - \$3.38).

2. ONLY U.S. FIRM TO RECEIVE INVITATION IS LOUIS BERGER INT'L. DR. BERGER HAS VISITED KUWAIT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, MOST RECENTLY IN LATE NOVEMBER. PLANNING BOARD HAS AGREED TO PAY KD10,000 FOR THE DESIGNS RECEIVED, AND IT IS OUR HOPE THAT LOUIS BERGER INT'L WILL SUBMIT A PROPOSAL.

3. DESIGN FIRMS ARE BEING ASKED TO PLAN BOTH HIGH AND MEDIUM-RISE, MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING AND RECOMMEND FIVE DIFFERENT INDUSTRIAL

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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 00470 291405Z

HOUSING SYSTEMS SUITABLE FOR CONSTRUCTING THESE UNITS. BERGER HAS PREVIOUSLY WORKED CLOSELY WITH GE HOUSING SYSTEM DIVISION BUT

IT OUR UNDERSTANDING GE SYSTEM NOT SUITABLE FOR MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS. IN ANY CASE, GE PEOPLE EXPECTED VISIT KUWAIT FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY AND THEY MIGHT FIND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LATER STAGES OF WORK AT EAST SULEIBIKHAT OR ON SINGLE STOREY DWELLINGS BEING PLANNED ELSEWHERE IN KUWAIT.

4. EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW IDENTITY OF OTHER INVITEES BUT WILL TRY TO GET THIS INFORMATION, ALTHOUGH IT NOT EASILY AVAILABLE.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT MOST SUITABLE U.S. MULTI-STOREY SYSTEMS, PREFERABLY THOSE UTILIZING PRE-STRESSED CONCRETE, BE RECOMMENDED IN BERGER PROPOSAL AS THIS WHERE BIG MONEY LIES FOR U.S. IF COMMERCE OR HUD KNOWS OF SEVERAL HIGH QUALITY FIRMS FITTING ABOVE DESCRIPTION THEY MAY WISH DISCUSS THEM WITH GERGER INT'L.
STOLTZFUS

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